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## Resist Newsletter, Mar. 30, 1976

Resist

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# RESIST

*a call to resist  
illegitimate authority*

March 30, 1976 - 720 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 4, Cambridge, Massachusetts #102

## Securing MICRONESIA ... for the Pentagon

ROGER W. GALE

(On February 24, the Senate voted to expand U.S. territory for the first time in half a century by making the Mariana Islands Chain in the Pacific a commonwealth of the U.S. with a status comparable to that of Puerto Rico. If the Senate version is acceptable to the House, the people of the Marianas will be asked to approve the amended version. Their approval seems certain. The separation of the Marianas has already encouraged secessionist moves by other districts of Micronesia, and very likely spells the end of any possibility of Micronesian unity. The following article, which represents one of the best overviews of the Micronesian situation, was written for the Summer, 75 issue of AMPO. AMPO provides a "forum for analysis and discussion of Japanese People's movements and the rapidly expanding Japanese domestic economy overseas empire." The article was submitted to Resist by the Micronesian Independence Support Committee in Honolulu.)

### MICRONESIA

Micronesia covers a land and ocean area larger than that of the continental United States, stretching from within 2000 miles of Hawaii to only 400 miles from Indonesia and the Philippines. At the closest point, it is only 900 miles from Tokyo. There are 2,300 islands, about 100 of which are inhabited, with a total population, including Guam, of about 220,000. In the past century, the islands have been ruled by Spain, Germany, Japan and the United States. They were a League of Nations mandate when ruled by Japan. Then the United States, under the auspices of the United Nations, established a unique 'strategic trusteeship' for Micronesia in 1947 which allowed the U.S. to fortify the islands. The ten other trusteeships established by the U.N. have by now become independent.

Between 1946-58, the U.S. detonated an official total of 96 nuclear bombs on Bikini and Eniwetok islands. The islands are still too radioactive for safe rehabilitation and the former inhabitants remain in forced exile. In 1954, Bravo, the code-name for the first test of a deliverable H-bomb, carried deadly radioactivity over populated areas, severely injuring 289 Micronesians and the crew of the Japanese fishing

## SUSAN'S TRIAL: a political trial

THE SUSAN SAXE DEFENSE COMMITTEE

Sometime this spring Susan Saxe will go on trial in the state of Massachusetts. Susan, who had been active in the anti-war movement in the late 60's and early 70's, had been underground for four and a half years when she was arrested last March in Philadelphia. The charges she faces, two counts of armed robbery in Boston in Sept. of 1970 in which she is accused of having participated, along with four other people. During the course of that robbery a Boston policeman was killed. The state of Mass. has charged Susan under something known as the felony-murder law. Briefly, that means that if there is a felony committed and someone is murdered in the course of that felony, then all parties accused of the felony can be charged with first degree murder. Susan has pled not not guilty to all the charges in this case.

Susan's lawyer has argued in pre-trial motions that this law is both unconstitutional and highly unfair. It allows the DA's office to avoid the usual requirements for proving someone is guilty of first degree murder. All they technically have to prove is that the defendant participated in any way in the felony. If Susan, who is not accused of even having been at the scene of the murder, is convicted under this law she will get 2 life sentences for the robbery (two tellers were held up that day) and one MANDATORY NATURAL life sentence. A natural life sentence means that there is no chance of parole ever, and that therefore Susan Saxe would have to spend the rest of her natural life behind bars. The only way she could then be released from prison would be if her sentence were to be commuted by a governor of Massachusetts - hardly a possibility given the present political situation and the vindictiveness of the press in this case.

Since her arrest, two defense committees, one in Philadelphia and one in Boston, have been working to build support for Susan. The work of the committees, along with raising the needed minimum of \$30,000 for legal fees and expenses, has been an attempt to raise the political questions involved in this case and build support for Susan on that basis. It is clear that this trial, like so many we have seen over the past decade, will not be a trial about a 'crime' - it will be a trial about politics.

(continued on page 2)

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## (Micronesia, continued)

boat, the Lucky Dragon. All but one of the children on Rongelap Island have had to have thyroid surgery and in 1972 the first victim died of leukemia.

Kwajalein island, the world's largest atoll, is a secret missile test center for the anti-ballistic missile system (ABM) and for MIRVs launched from submerged submarines and from Vandenburg Air Force Base in California.

Since 1969 the Congress of Micronesia has been negotiating for self-determination. In August 1972, the Congress voted to negotiate for independence but the United States has refused to discuss anything other than 'free association', a scheme which would guarantee America control of the islands for the foreseeable future. Talks have now broken off, since the United States has refused to return the 60% of the land of Micronesia it controls under conditions acceptable to the Congress.

Surrounded by some of the best fishing grounds in the world, Micronesia could easily become self-reliant. But it has been American policy since the Solomon Report, commissioned by John Kennedy, to create a permanent dependence on the U.S. Today, half of the working population works for the U.S. Government, and 94 per cent of the area's budget comes directly from the U.S. Congress. Imports continue to outpace exports by a wide margin.

The major export is copra (dried coconut meat), all of which is exported to Japan. Tourism is growing rapidly and will be accelerated greatly when direct Tokyo-Saipan flights begin in 1976.

### The Pentagon's Hidden Empire: Micronesia

Even before the final liberation of Indochina, Pentagon planners had already drawn up the blueprints for a massive new "fallback" position in Micronesia. Centered around Guam and Tinian in the Mariana Island chain, the new base structure would guarantee the United States a secure launching pad for future military adventures and an inviolable command center for coordinating military operations throughout the most populated part of the globe.

Only a month and a half from the day the last American was evacuated from Saigon, the Ford Administration held a plebiscite among the 14,000 people of the northern Mariana Islands which may lead to the first outright territorial acquisition by the United States since the purchase of the Virgin Islands in 1917. Located 1,500 miles south of Tokyo, along a spine of volcanic mountain peaks stretching from Mt. Fuji, the islands have been administered by the United States as a strategic trusteeship of the United Nations since they were conquered from Japan in World War II. Guam, the southernmost island in the Marianas chain has been a U.S. colony since its conquest in the Spanish-American War (1898). Now with United States Congress approval, the

northern Mariana Islands will become a "commonwealth" of the United States with a status like that of Puerto Rico. Eventually, the United States hopes to annex the other 2,000 islands in Micronesia that are part of the trusteeship too.

In 1925, the U.S. officially acquired Swains Island near Samoa but it was merely a legalization of an existent fact.

According to the Pentagon's plan, the annexation of the islands will pave the way for the construction of a \$300 million base on Tinian the island from which the Enola Gay and another B-29 took off to drop the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Says Air Force Secretary John McLucas, "as the Air Force withdrew from Asia, it did not want to go all the way back to Hawaii. There is also a limit on space and facilities on Guam." As a result, Tinian, located about 100 miles north of Guam, is slated to become a major forward supply depot and an amphibious training base. Already, detachments from the Third Marine Division in Okinawa have conducted two amphibious assaults, code-named Quick Jab.

### The Takeover of the Mariana Islands

With a small armada of warships visible off the coast of Saipan, an historical covenant was signed on February 15, 1975 by a representative of the United States and leaders of the Northern Marianas, aimed at establishing a permanent commonwealth status for the islands. On June 17, a plebiscite was held in which almost 80 per cent of the voters supported American colonial plans. On July 2, President Ford formally asked Congress to approve the establishment of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas. In rapid fire fashion the United States has set out to reverse the universal demand of self-determination and create a military colony in the Pacific. Newly elected Senator Gary Hart said, "The only reason the Ford Administration wants to take control of these tranquil islands, against the wishes of the legislature of Micronesia, is to build additional, enormously expensive bases... It is appalling that the U.S. would involve itself in this type of archaic policy."

Talks between a team of negotiators led by Franklin Haydn Williams, president of the CIA-created Asia Foundation, and leaders of the Marianas business community were underway for three years prior to the signing of the covenant. Like the 2,000 other islands in Micronesia, the Marianas have been under American control for 30 years now. Five of the six districts in Micronesia are now pressing for self-determination; only in the Marianas is there support for continued ties with the United States. According to Edward Pangelinan, chairman of the Marianas Political Status Commission, "the 14,000 people of Marianas want to become part of the American family as soon as possible."



Pangelian, along with a number of other members of the negotiating team, has been involved in land speculation on Tinian. Before the United States placed a moratorium on land transactions on the island, at least three of the negotiators were buying up land from the new Tinian residents who own their own land, so that it could be sold to the military for profit. Pangelian himself is attorney for the reputedly underworld-controlled Bally Corporation, the world's largest manufacturer of slot machines, which is trying to gain a foothold in Saipan's burgeoning tourist industry.

Even before the covenant was signed in February, the United States had begun implementing a carefully orchestrated campaign to separate the Marianas from the rest of Micronesia. At the urging of Williams, the Marianas District Legislature unanimously adopted a resolution in September, 1974 requesting the Marianas to be administered separately from the other districts. The resolution was directly contrary to one passed just before by the Congress of Micronesia which expressed "unequivocal" opposition to the separate administration of any part of Micronesia prior to a nationwide plebiscite.

In addition, the Department of the Interior, which administers Micronesia, has begun shifting already committed funds from other districts to the Marianas. The major case involved the transfer of much needed, long-promised ship building funds to Saipan for the construction of a \$4.5 million power plant for supplying Pan American and Continental Airlines-owned hotels.

Per capita income on Saipan averages about \$1,000 a year but Williams has agreed to pay out at least \$140 million in budgetary support and rent over a seven year period, a figure which, distributed equally, would come to about \$10,000 per person. This will more than double their income and more than anything else led to the favorable vote in the June 17 plebiscite. Since the United States already employs more than half the working population in The Marianas, the prospects of perpetual dependence on the United States are quite real.

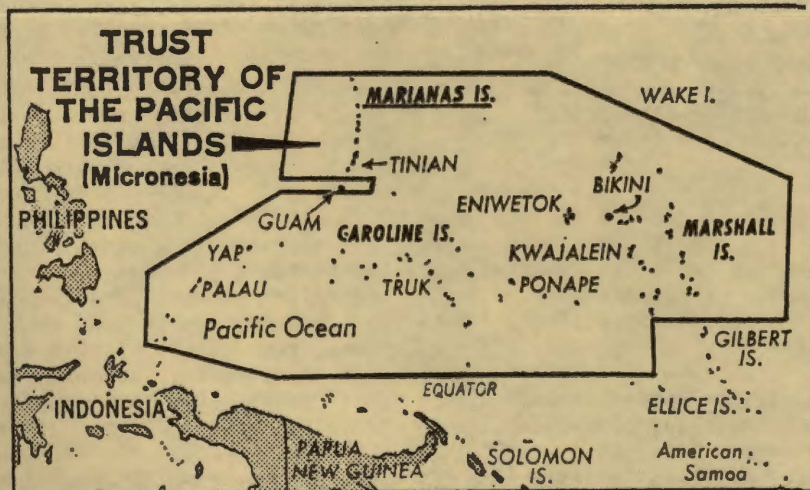
These figures do not come close to including the entire impact of the military presence -- spinoffs from military construction, from spending by troops and imported laborers, etc., all of which have enticed the people to seek permanent ties with Washington. But there will be some major losses as well. Tinian is Micronesia's most fertile island. Its 900 people farm large parts of the 40 square mile flat-topped island to provide Guam with its only fresh produce. Ben Manglona, the islands agronomist, asserts that "Tinian even could easily feed everyone in Micronesia." Last winter, Tinian even sold watermelons to California markets. A cattle ranch already produces a large part of Micronesia's beef and pork and will soon begin producing "Tinian Gold," the brandname for the first fresh milk ever commercially produced in the islands. But as Manglona complains, "it will be a little difficult to be farmers when the Pentagon plans to turn our best land into an airfield. All they plan to leave is a rocky hillside."

Pentagon plans announced in May, 1973 call for turning two-thirds of the island into a combined airfield, supply depot and Marine amphibious training base -- with live air and naval bombardment. Since the first announcement, the projected number of troops to be stationed there at maximum times has more than tripled to upwards of 13,000.

The military is also maintaining control of two parcels of land on Saipan where the C.I.A. ran a training base for Nationalist guerrillas between 1951-62. And it plans to continue use of its target range on Farallon de Medinilla, a small uninhabited island 45 miles north of Tinian.

For what the Pentagon says the base complex would cost, 10,000 suburban homes or 20 new schools could be built. With the U.S. Congress in its present mood of austerity, it has become increasingly unlikely that it will appropriate the full amount of money promised the people when they voted on June 17, nor is it likely that money will be appropriated now for construction of the base. In fact, the House Appropriations Committee in its 1973 report said, "It doubts cons-

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# THE ECONOMICS OF RACISM

(The following article is taken from the November, 75 issue of Nepa News: The Voice of the North East Prisoners Association. Over the past few months, the situation in Boston has grown increasingly complex. At times it is difficult to know how to interpret continually mounting opposition to busing and desegregation. To better understand the growing segregationist movement in Boston and elsewhere in this country, we felt it was useful to start off our series with an economic analysis.)

Why are so many Boston whites opposed to having their kids go to school with black kids?

To most people who have talked about this question in the past year, the question means: "Are whites really racist, or are they just concerned about the safety and the education of their children?" As a result, discussions and arguments over school busing for desegregation become phony debates about the motives of anti-busing groups in Boston.

What people ought to be asking, and don't ask very often, is: Why are so many white people in Boston racists? This article is an attempt to answer this question.

Like racism everywhere, the racist violence that has erupted in the past year in Boston's working-class neighborhoods has primarily economic origins. Recent white opposition to school integration is only one clash in a long-term struggle waged by those whites who mistakenly see blacks as threats to their economic and political power in the city.

Boston's working class whites see that they are faced with high unemployment, rising taxes, declining housing and rising rents, poor education, and a generally lower standard of living than friends and relatives living outside the city. In other words, they can see that the working class is getting screwed economically. They can also see that Boston's white politicians are not doing anything to solve their problems.

But what has happened in Boston, sadly, is that the white working class, knowing they are exploited, have put the blame for their troubles on the last group of people in the state who ought to get the blame: the city's black community. Why is this so?

First, because the city's racist leadership (School Committeeman John Kerrigan, Councilwoman Louise Day Hicks, Mayor Kevin White, and others) have for the past ten years fanned that racism by blaming blacks for anything that goes wrong in the city (high taxes, high crime, high unemployment, high rent).

Second, because most working class whites don't at all understand who is really ripping them off: the major companies that run the city's economy and the suburban middle and upper class who make their living in the city and pay far less than their fair share of the cost of running the city.

School busing for desegregation just happens to be the battleground of racists in Boston because that is the easiest issue for anti-black organizers to rally around. (It's easy to keep your kids home from school, or go to a racist rally.) Racism in Boston is based on white ignorance and it will continue long after school integration is accepted--until working class whites see the real sources of their economic and political problems.

On the other hand, white racism in Boston will decrease dramatically when the white working class sees that it has much more in common with the black community than it does with either Boston's corporate ruling class or the middle and upper class who have deserted the city and left the white working class to quarrel with blacks over the small wealth for them to share.

To understand this economic explanation of racism in Boston, it is necessary to be aware of the following economic and political realities:

--Boston today is almost completely a working class community. In the past 20 years, most of the middle and upper class have left the city for the suburbs on Route 128 and beyond. From 1960 to 1970, 104,000 whites left the city --one out of every six whites. That was long before busing began. Now only one out of four people in the metropolitan area live in Boston proper.

--In the same decade, Boston's black population increased by 41,000--going from 9% to 16% of the city population. In 1975, blacks are about 18% of the citizenry of Boston, while other minority groups make the city 23% non-white.

--Also in the past 10 to 20 years, Boston has become a poor city, particularly in comparison to its suburbs. The average income of people in Boston is much lower than in nearby towns. For example, a 1973 study showed that the median income for Bostonians was \$9,133, compared to \$16,463 in Concord and \$17,361 in Lincoln.

In May, 1975, Boston's unemployment rate was 14.1%, compared to 11.6% for the metropolitan area. The rate in Roxbury, heart of the black community, was 19.1%.



A 1970 study determined that only 27% of Boston families own their own homes, compared to 61% in the metropolitan area. In Boston's black community, only 17% owned homes.

Boston is also much poorer than nearby towns in terms of how much it can afford to spend on schools. While Boston has the highest tax rate in the state, it spends much of its tax money on roads, police and fire protection. Because it provides such services to corporations and to suburban commuters, it can't spend enough on education. In 1973 the city spent \$935 per pupil on its public schools, while Concord spent \$1108 and Lincoln \$1422.

--While the city remains poor and working class, the suburban towns around it remain rich, and as a result, all white. Suburban towns typically have black populations of less than one percent (Milton: 0.1%; Newton, 1.2%; Needham, 0.2%). These towns remain wealthy by intentionally keeping out the poor. Zoning laws are used to ban apartments, trailers, and other cheap housing that would allow suburbs to be racially and economically integrated.

--The poverty of Boston's citizens exists side by side with the wealth of great corporations based in the city, as well as in the suburban bedroom towns. A large number of banks, insurance companies and other businesses are located in Boston, but their profits and investments leave the city in a steady flow--either to suburban stockholders or to new construction and financial projects outside the city.

In the same way, most middle and upper level jobs in Boston are held by people who live outside the city and have no loyalty to it. From teachers and police, on up to doctors, lawyers and corporation executives, just about everyone who can afford to leave the city moves to the suburbs, taking economic and political power with them.

Thus, most of the people who make the most important decisions about the city's economics and politics do not even live in the city. As a rule, it is suburbanites who make decisions such as what new industries will open in Boston and what ones will close down, where new housing or roads will be built, and even what the tax rate will be. In many ways, the city is a colony of its suburbs--political and financial decisions are sent into the city from the suburbs, and profits from Boston's labor are sent out to the suburbs and beyond.

Suburban commuters to Boston regard the city as a place to earn money and to give them other services (hospitals, parks, theatres, night clubs, etc.), but not as a place to live. By way of illustrating, one third of Boston's area is taken up by roads, highways and public parking lots. Boston residents pay for these roads in taxes, but non-residents get the use of them at no cost.

Likewise, Boston's museums, colleges, hospitals, government office buildings and other tax-exempt property are used heavily by non-residents who use little or nothing for their support. Boston taxpayers make up the difference between the tax cost of these services and the small share paid by non-residents and corporations.

In summary, Boston is a poor community because in several ways it finances the wealth of its corporations and suburbs--through labor, taxes and real estate.

How does this contribute to racism in the city? In a word, by forcing poor whites and poor blacks to compete with each other economically. Both whites and blacks in Boston are struggling to increase their share of the economic pie left to them by corporations and suburbanites. Neither blacks nor whites have enough in the way of housing, jobs, education, income, and other basic needs and services.

In this situation of urban poverty and corporate and suburban wealth, people in the city have the choice of either uniting to assert their economic rights, or struggling against each other and both losing. Unfortunately, a large number of whites have in the past chosen to fight against black people in Boston instead of joining with them in a struggle for economic justice.

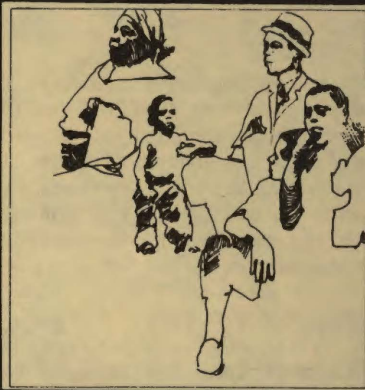
White racism has grown stronger and stronger in the past 10 years as one Boston politician after another won elections by whipping up racist feelings against not only school desegregation but all black efforts to improve their lot in Boston. School busing has therefore become the symbol of the black community's political struggle, rather than just one part of the struggle. If busing were not an issue, it is clear that racist politicians would be fighting desegregation on other fronts instead: housing, jobs, recreation areas, and so on. Some whites refuse to share the limited resources of the city any more than they are forced to do so by law.

As bad as the situation in Boston is today, it is not hopeless. The racist leadership has been successful because in the past they have had very little competition. Hardly anyone has bothered to tell Boston's white working class that their political and economic weakness is due to the city's status as an exploited colony of its suburbs and of the businesses that dominate the downtown area. Like any colony, Boston can be liberated if the majority of working class whites stop fighting blacks and join with them politically to regain for both groups control of the city for its residents.

A black/white working class coalition could make Boston a much better place for all its citizens by putting into effect such measures

(continued on page 6)





#### MEDIAN INCOME IN 1973

- Lincoln \$17,361
- Concord 16,463
- BOSTON 9,133



#### UNEMPLOYMENT IN MAY 1975

- Metropolitan Area including suburbs 11.6%
- BOSTON 14.1%



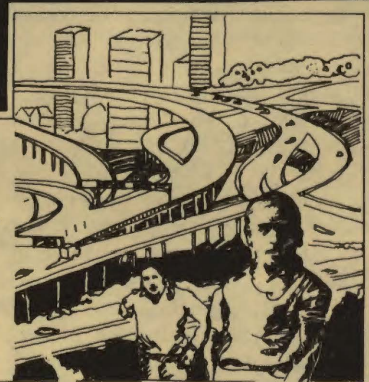
#### HOME OWNERSHIP \*

- Metropolitan Area including suburbs 61%
- BOSTON 27%

#### SCHOOL SPENDING

\*In spite of Boston's high tax rate Boston spends less on schools and a higher proportion on roads, police, fire protection services to benefit suburban commuters.

- Lincoln \$1422 per pupil
- Concord 1108 per pupil
- BOSTON 935 per pupil



#### (Economics of Racism, continued)

as: a commuter income tax, charging suburbanites for use of the city; higher taxes on commercial and industrial property in the city; strong rent control laws, to stop the flow of profits from Boston apartments to corporate accounts and suburban estates; taxes on presently untaxed land, such as hospitals, museums and universities; militant action to force banks, investment companies and other businesses to serve the city first before sending money elsewhere; giving preference to city residents in all city hiring and promotion policies; and using the city government to lobby for such measures as a statewide property tax, a graduated income tax, and fair government policies on welfare, unemployment compensation and so on. These are only a few of the potential actions that a city government could take to raise money for the city and to help its citizens financially.

What could be done with the money? A lot. Boston has the highest property tax in the United States; the tax could be cut greatly in residential areas if new money came from other sources. If taxes weren't cut, the money could pay for better schools, recreation facilities, housing improvements, neighborhood centers, and many other community programs that either don't exist or are badly funded today. Most important, the city could be run by its own people-- a situation that doesn't exist today. But these actions, and the improvement of city life for black and white alike, can only happen if Boston's white community smartens up and begins to see that their natural allies are in fact the very black people whose kids are now assaulted daily as they try to go to school.



(Susan Saxe, continued)

Susan, since her arrest a year ago, has been clear about the fact that she is indeed a political person - and a political prisoner. She defined herself in Philadelphia as a revolutionary, a feminist and a lesbian. But what does all that mean?

Both Susan and her defense committees understand that the basic institutions and structures of American capitalism and imperialism are means to control us all for the profit of a few. To be a revolutionary means not only having the understanding of the ways in which America robs people throughout the world of freedom, of dignity and of control, but also making a commitment to acting on that understanding. And it means not only acting in what we know to be in our collective interests, but also supporting and joining forces with many different people engaged in many different struggles. It means believing that together people can in fact change the course of history and make the world a different place.... and again, acting on that belief.

To be a feminist also means having a certain type of understanding. Susan, along with millions of other women, has been awakened to the nature of the daily oppression that all women face. It is no accident that women are fighting for their liberation. Centuries of servitude and degradation have erupted time and time again in a movement that calls for fundamental changes in the attitudes and institutions that have defined in a limited way what it means to be a woman. It is not enough for women to feel strong themselves; basic factors that shape our lives must also be altered. For Susan to say that she is a feminist means that she not only has that understanding but that she will fight for the liberation of all women. There will be no liberation of women without revolution, and there will be no revolution without the liberation of women.

Susan has also said that she is a lesbian. While it is true that the tremendous growth of the gay movement over the past few years has made it much easier for many people to 'come out', it is still something that many Americans are unwilling to accept. In no way will a jury in Boston feel more favorable toward Susan because she has said that she is a lesbian. But her ability to say that, and to say it proudly, is yet another example of Susan's commitment to honesty and to being principled. She is not on trial for being a lesbian. Susan is on trial because she is part and parcel of a movement in this country, in the world, that the American government wishes to crush. But her lesbianism is not separate from who Susan is as a political woman.

Susan's politics have a history and a past. For us to really understand her we not only need to know something about where she has come from, but we must accept the fact that all of us have gone through tremendous changes over the past five years.

Susan's growth as a political person, like many of us, was spurred on by the War in Vietnam and the development of the anti-war movement here. While the prosecution in this case would like us to forget what was going on in America, in the world, in 1976 we owe it not only to Susan, but also to ourselves to never forget that history. America's war against the Vietnamese people continued and in fact expanded into America's war against the Cambodian and the Laotian people. In the spring of 1970, massive student strikes against the war were brought on by the revelation of the secret bombings of Cambodia. Hundreds of thousands of students went on strike. Susan, then a student at Brandeis, was active in the national coordination of that strike. At Jackson State and Kent State students died that spring. And so, the war against the Indochinese became the war against America's children. There is no way to deny that violence was going on. The most brutal violence the world had even seen was being carried out by the US military in Indochina. And the people who fought to end that war, the people who were fighting for the liberation of black people, the people who stood up and demanded an end to the violence were met head on with the violence that only a government like this one can unleash.

Supporting Susan Saxe means understanding who she is now and remembering the movement of which she has been a part. It is the same movement in which many of us have been, and are still, active. The trial of Susan Saxe is a trial of us all. If they convict her, they have dealt a serious blow to every one of us. We must not fall into the trap that the government, along with the mass media, has set for us and think of Susan as an isolated individual. We must not forget who the real criminals are! Her fight is our fight. Support Susan Saxe.



As we mentioned above, the legal fees and expenses alone will run at least \$30,000 - and possibly even greater. On top of that there are the daily expenses of the defense committees. We hope that you will be able to send in a generous contribution. Please send whatever you can to: Susan Saxe Defense Committee, P.O. Box 39 West Somerville, Mass. 02144. We are also anxious to talk with anyone who has questions or wants to help out. Write to us or give us a call at 617-547-6358.



(Micronesia, continued)

truction of the base complex can be justified."

Although Representative Phillip Burton, chairman of the House Democratic Caucus and of the subcommittee on Micronesia, has given his tentative support for the takeover, in the Senate opposition forces reacted sharply to what has been billed as the Administration's "test case." In what was probably the first floor debate on Micronesia since the United States took over the islands, an unusual coalition of liberals and conservatives came only eight votes short of rejecting outright a small \$1.5 million transitional allowance for the Marianas.

Liberals have opposed the Pentagon's plans because of their high cost, approaching half a billion dollars. Not included is the cost of base expansion projects on Guam. There is also opposition from some conservatives in Congress including Sen. John Stennis who opposes the present covenant because it restricts the rights of Americans to own land on the Marianas.

The forced withdrawal of the United States from Indochina drastically changes many previous calculations about the deployment of troops. In the short run, the Pentagon and even such critics of overseas troops as Senate leader Mike Mansfield now feel the United States should avoid making any changes in its troop deployment lest it be viewed as a sign of weakness. Former Defense Secretary Schlesinger avoided any comment on the future of American presence in Asia, concentrating instead on attempting to portray American decisiveness by focusing on the supposed increased tensions in Korea.

The effect of this attempt to "stand firm in the face of defeat" will be to slow down the movement of forces to Micronesia. In the end, however, America's defeat in Indochina and the growing opposition to bases elsewhere almost certainly guarantees that, in the decades to come, Guam, Tinian and the other islands in Micronesia will be the military keystone in the Pacific. Already, Guam has become a major military bastion. The use of Guam as a way-station for over 130,000 Vietnamese refugees, unwelcome anywhere else in Asia, confirmed the island's strategic significance to a nation with few friends left in Asia.

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#### JULY 4th COALITION

P.O. Box 205 Cooper Station N.Y. N.Y. 10003

The July 4th Coalition is presently organizing a Bicentennial demonstration in Philadelphia on July 4th, 1976. Last month the coalition was formed and the national board was elected in New York. The board includes representatives from many different national political organizations. Our grant will aid them to partially defray the many expenses involved in organizing the event.

## Grants

#### ASSATA SHAKUR DEFENSE COMMITTEE

20 Avenue A, #2C, N.Y. N.Y. 10009

This committee has been formed for the defense of Assata Shakur, who's been in jail for three years and hasn't been convicted of anything. She had been accused of armed robbery and kidnapping, yet won acquittals in both trials. She now faces a murder charge in New Jersey. Our grant will assist the defense committee for this stage of her defense.

#### MICRONESIAN INDEPENDENCE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

1212 University Ave. Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

The M.I.S.C. has been actively involved in the struggle against establishing the Mariana Islands Chain as a U.S. commonwealth with a status similar to that of Puerto Rico. It is now working closely with the Save Palau Organization (S.P.O.), a Palau islands-based group, struggling against the construction of a super-port in these small Pacific islands. Our grant will enable the M.I.S.C. to send S.P.O. paper and supplies for 6 to 8 issues of Tia-Belau, the only mass-distributed newspaper published in the district and probably the most important weapon the Save Palau Organization has.

#### BLACK UNITED LIBERATION FRONT

2009 W. Columbia Ave. Phila. Pa.

The Black United Liberation Front (B.U.L.F.) is a community organization located in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Northern Philadelphia. It provides services to the community in the form of free breakfast programs, clothing drives, legal aid and bail programs, busing to Graterford Prison, etc. In addition to organizing people around issues such as S-1, Welfare Reform, Angola, etc., the organization also has a store on Columbia Ave. Phila., which serves the community as a cultural shop giving people a full view of the plight of the people here and abroad through political literature and other materials. Our grant will enable B.U.L.F. to defray the expenses of supplies and stock for their office.

#### AFRICAN PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST PARTY

405 S.W. 8th Ave., Gainesville, Fla. 32601

The Burning Spear Newspaper is the political information organ of the African People's Socialist Party (A.P.S.P.). The Spear, which has been informing and educating many sectors of the Southern community politically for almost seven years, is the only Black revolutionary newspaper in the South and one of the oldest in the entire country. Our grant will enable A.P.S.P. to publish the Spear and to pay related bills.

#### ZIMBABWE AFRICAN NATIONAL UNION (ZANU)

89-09 162nd St. Jamaica, New York 11432

ZANU's armed forces are presently engaged in armed struggle against Rhodesia's racist white regime. It has already liberated some areas from racist rule in the northern and eastern regions of the country. A grant to ZANU's N.Y. office will help them obtain needed office equipment and will also finance the publication of two speeches of the late chairman Herbert Chitepo.